(b) whether steps have been taken to strengthen the connecting road from Jonai to Lakhimpur (Part of NH-52) in anticipation of the increase in traffic intensity on this road on completion of the construction of bridge mentioned above;

(c) whether the four-lane corridor road construction is not making any progress in Assam area in comparison to other States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The construction of Bogibeel bridge is likely to be completed in four years *i.e.* by 2008-09.

(b) Yes, Sir. The stretch from Jonai to Lakhimpur of NH-52 is planned for widening to two lane under "Special accelerated Road Development Programme for North Eastern Region".

(c) and (d) Atotal length of 690 Km. of National Highways has been taken up under East-West Corridor of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) in the State of Assam. Out of this 19 Km. have already been four laned 453 Km. are under implementation and action has been initiated for award of work for the remaining 218 Km. The entire work is likely to be completed by 2008.

NH-4 in Karnataka

3241. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the on-going road works taken up under golden quadrilateral project on National Highway No. 4 in Karnataka; and

(b) by when the entire work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The present

status of the on-going works under the Golden Quadrilateral Project on National Highway No. 4 in the State of Karnataka is as under:

SI. No	Contract/Stretch	Length (Km.)	Physical progress (%) as on July, 2005	Likely date of Completion
1.	Tumkur Bypass (Km 62 to Km 75)	13.00	67.50	December, 2005
2.	Sira-Chitradurga Section (km 122.3 to km 189)	66.70	73.16	December, 2005
3.	Chitradurga Bypass (km 189 to km 207)	18.00	49.75	June, 2006
4.	Chitradurga-Harihar Section (km 207 to km 284)	77.00	48.80	June, 2006
5.	Harihar-Haveri Section (km. 284 to km 340)	56.00	45.06	June, 2006
6.	Harveri-Hubli Section (km 340 to km 404)	64.00	43.30	June, 2006
7.	Dharwad-Belgaum Section (km 433 to 495)	62.00	68.11	December, 2005
8.	Belgaum Bypass Section (km. 495 to km. 515)	20.00	90.33	October, 2005

(b) The whole work is likely to be completed by June, 2006.

Approval for cruise services

3242. SHRIMATI S.G INDIRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given approval for operating cruise services on two sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had received proposals to operate cruise services in many other parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.